

We claim:

1. An electro-active contact lens system comprising:
a contact lens;
an electro-active element attached to the contact lens;
a view detector attached to the contact lens and in electronic communication with the electro-active element; and
a power source attached to the contact lens to provide power to the electro-active element and the view detector.
2. The electro-active contact lens system of claim 1 wherein the view detector comprises a rangefinder.
3. The electro-active contact lens system of claim 1 wherein the view detector comprises a tilt switch.
4. The electro-active contact lens system of claim 1 wherein the view detector comprises a micro-gyroscope.
5. The electro-active contact lens system of claim 1 wherein the power source is a conformal battery.
6. The electro-active contact lens system of claim 1 further comprising:
a means for stabilizing the view detector between a palpebral fissure of a patient's eye when the contact lens system is worn by the patient.
7. The contact lens system of claim 6 wherein the means for stabilizing the view detector comprises at least one prism weight attached to the contact lens.
8. The contact lens system of claim 6 wherein the means for stabilizing the view detector comprises at least one slab-off attached to the contact lens.

9. The contact lens system of claim 6 wherein the means for stabilizing the view detector comprises a truncated contact lens, wherein a portion of the contact lens is truncated along a chord below and substantially parallel to a horizontal meridian of the contact lens.
10. The contact lens system of claim 1 wherein the contact lens is manufactured from the group consisting of gas permeable, non-gas permeable, and hydrophilic optical materials.
11. The contact lens system of claim 1 wherein the electro-active element is contained within a capsule connected to the contact lens.
12. The contact lens system of claim 11 wherein the capsule is constructed of a rigid material.
13. The contact lens system of claim 11 wherein the capsule provides a fixed distance optical power.
14. The contact lens system of claim 11 wherein the view detector is contained in the capsule.
15. The contact lens system of claim 1 wherein the contact lens provides a fixed distance optical power.
16. A method for making an electro-active contact lens system comprising:
encapsulating an electro-active element; and
attaching the encapsulated electro-active element and a power source to provide power to the electro-active element to a contact lens.
17. The method of claim 16 wherein a view detector is attached to the contact lens and the view detector is in electronic communication with the electro-active element.
18. The method of claim 17 wherein the view detector comprises a rangefinder.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein the view detector is encapsulated with the electro-active element.
20. The method of claim 17 further comprising stabilizing the view detector on the contact lens between a palpebral fissure of a patient's eye when the contact lens is worn by the patient.
21. The method of claim 20 wherein the view detector is stabilized by attaching at least one prism weight to the contact lens.
22. The method of claim 20 wherein the view detector is stabilized by attaching at least one slab-off to the contact lens.
23. The method of claim 20 wherein the view detector is stabilized by truncating a portion of the contact lens along a chord below and substantially parallel to a horizontal meridian of the contact lens.
24. The method of claim 16 wherein the electro-active element is encapsulated within a rigid material.
25. The method of claim 16 wherein the contact lens comprises a hydrophilic material.